

From Tom's Shop

HARDWARE PRODUCTS REVIEW

By Tom Chasteen



If you missed the fall hardware show season, you missed some really great hardware shows. The retailer attendance and activity was almost "like the good old days." I was both encouraged and invigorated listening to fellow retailers talk about their businesses and the opportunities they see down the road.

I discovered some items that could make great gift items for the upcoming holiday season. Our store is

located literally on an island in the Florida Keys and our market is both small and seasonal, so we've avoided the traditional Christmas decorations business that other hardware retailers pursue. Instead, we try to find items that if they don't sell during the holiday season they still have a place in our product offering the rest of the year.



PRODUCT #1: DUAL HI-POWERED ADAPTER | ORIGINAL POWER

Original Power has come out with a very useful product that is an electronic charger that can charge up to two separate iPads, iPods or iPhones at the same time as well as other products that can be charged with 2.1 amps and be plugged into one of the two USB plugs at the bottom of the charger. The Dual Hi-Powered Adapter is smaller than a package of cigarettes and comes with an extra-long, six-foot charging cable that is

nice for the iPad, iPod or iPhone. The packaging is very well done and in our tests it consistently charged a 16GB iPad in two hours or less.

The retail price for this item is in the \$39.99 range. For more information go to www.originalpower.com.